

WEATHER FORECAST

Manila: Partly cloudy to sunny with light rain or drizzle. High 30, low 24. Wind: light to moderate. Visibility: good. Air quality: good. Water level: normal. Tide: normal. Traffic: normal. Security: normal. Health: normal. Environment: normal. Overall: normal.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology

Second FRONT PAGE

That's what the headline says: second page. The first page is the front page.

Bus falls off Quezon bridge; 24 hurt

By Delfin T. Malina Jr.
PH Daily Inquirer Staff Writer

MANILA CITY—A third-round passenger bus crashed into the side-railing of a bridge in Marikina Valley in Marikina, Quezon, then plunged into a creek some 30 feet below just before midnight Friday, a police report said. Twenty-four passengers were injured.

The accident was the second in one day in Quezon after a Philippine National Railways train on the way to Marikina from Alibon crashed in Pinar Bago, Quezon, over 20 kilometers from Marikina, at about 2:30 a.m. on Friday.

The report said Balabagan Bus No. 148 carrying at least 30 passengers was negotiating a sharp curve along Marikina Valley highway when it fell to over the side and crashed.

Suddenly another vehicle appeared coming from the opposite

direction, prompting the driver of the Balabagan bus to swerve to the left to avoid a head-on collision. That was what it hit the concrete railing of the Balabagan Bridge.

The railing collapsed upon impact, sending the bus falling to the creek which had shallow rushing waters.

From another accident

Mark Antonio, a member of the Marikina Suburban Citizens, said the group was called to the site of the accident.

to rescue the accident site.

"Together with police and fire departments, we immediately rushed to the area to help rescue the victims," he said.

He said the group had barely started after coming from a home operation at the time accident in Pinar Bago, where six people were reported killed and 100 injured.

At least one of the injured victims was taken to the Dava Medical Center Hospital, also in Marikina.

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Mus seriously injured

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Gloria wins action; number of dead lowered in rail tragedy

By John L. Loring Jr.
Carmen S. Barrios and Mike Page

THEIR responsibility will be proven in the full court of law.

President Manuel Arroyo gave his pledge yesterday to the National Disaster Coordinating Council to lead the investigation into the train crash in Marikina.

More than 120 were injured in the tragedy last 12 June, according to the NCC and "but persons previously reported as dead were found to be alive and are now confined in the Jose C. Ramos Hospital in Marikina, Quezon."

The six national killed, in all, were: Celia L. Lora, 40; Maria L. Lora, 40; Maria L. Lora, 40; Maria L. Lora, 40; Maria L. Lora, 40; Maria L. Lora, 40.

"My deep sympathy for the families of the victims is most sincerely expressed," he said.

"The initial report that the train had crashed and that many passengers had been killed was a tragedy. I am sure that the investigation will lead to the identification of the cause of the accident."

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BASKETBALL: NBA—Lakers vs. Rockets; 10 a.m.; ESPN & PlayStation 2; 10 a.m. (7-8 p.m.) So-ter Sports—Kobe leads LA against T-Mac and Houston even as defending champion Detroit heads west to take on young, but really improved Utah.
AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Pac-10 College-Athletic's UCLA; 12:30 p.m.; Sports Plus—The Wildcats take on the Bruins in a college dual.
Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2004
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
A4
E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph
Editor
Teddyric S. Melendres
The only your feedback: inquirer.sports@inquirer.com or 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

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WHAT'S INSIDE



Tortillos rip Welcoat, ties for PBL Open lead

Games Tuesday (La Salle Open)
2 p.m.—At Philippine's Welcoat
4 p.m.—Tag the Old-Lakers at Old Mobile-Alonso

By Jasmine W. Payo

ARDY Larong, emerging as Granny Goose's leader, again sparked the Tortillos to a 70-58 victory over Welcoat Points yesterday and a share of the lead in the PBL Open Championship at the La Salle Greenhills Gym.

Larong fired 10 of his 14 points in a crucial fourth-quarter run as Granny Goose tied idle Montala for the lead with 4-1 status.

Granny Goose put the game away with a 17-6 spurt capped by a Larong triple that broke the game's last tie at 50 and launched the Tortillos to a 67-56 lead heading into the final two minutes.

The 6-foot-3 Larong also got ample help from Chico Lanete and Ron Capait, who combined for 21 points.

"We did it today on our playing position and taking the game. (I did not expect the team to perform this well). But with the players' performance, they deserve to be on top spot," said Tortillos coach Jun Tan.

In the second game, Magnolia-PBL took advantage of Mac Cardona's absence and



NBL Runners of Magnolia beats Alonso's Jun Aida to the loose ball. ALBERTO DIAZ/INQUIRER

drubbed ICTSI-La Salle, 85-55.

Cesar Catil led the Magnolia charge with 19 points.

Cardona, who averages 20.5 points, served his one-game suspension after incur-

ring a third unsportsmanlike foul in the Archers' last outing.

"It's good to be back and experience winning again," said coach Roy Barad, whose Wizards snapped out of a three-game losing streak for a level 3-3 card.

La Salle is now at 2-4.

The Tortillos opened the second half with seven unanswered points for 33-21, before a persistent Chester Tolomia and Allan Garbosa helped tie it up early in the fourth quarter.

It was Welcoat's third loss in five games. Catil and Arwid Santos teamed up in the first half to hit Magnolia-PBL at the interval, 37-29.

Magnolia went on to lead by 22 points at the end of the third period.

The scores:

First Game

GRANNY GOOSE 76—Larong 14, Lanete 11, Capait 10, Guifahan 8, Latorio 8, Almada 5, Santos 4, David 2, Carcho 2, Camarino 2, Gonzales 1, Itales 1, Cruz 0.

WELCOAT 68—Tolomia 15, Garbosa 12, Ortiguera 11, Washington 8, Reyes 4, Tan 3, Dy 3, Najada 0, Sta. Maria 0, Catina 0, Yeo 0.

Quarters: 15-10, 25-21, 48-43, 75-58.

Second Game

MAGNOLIA-PBL 85—Catil 18, Ysañez 13, Chan 10, Santos 8, Jones 7, Jap 7, Ramirez 5, Miranda 5, Miranda 4, Ramon 4, Sam 2, Morales 0, Co 0, Yabul 0.

ICTSI-LA SALLE 55—Yeo 18, Tang 12, Gasio 8, Gato 5, Co 3, Genter 3, Amala 2, Gavino 2, Aquino 2, Cabato 0, Malibanan 0, Galichan 0.

Quarters: 13-17, 37-28, 54-42, 85-55.

Militants blame US for delay in UN workers' release

KABUL, Afghanistan—U.S. troops have been blamed for the release of the three United Nations staffers, including Filipino diplomat Gregorio Sison, before the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Taliban-linked militants threatening to kill them UN staffers accused the United States on Saturday of opening the negotiations for their release. Attacks of Muslims, a spokesman for Afghanistan's former ruling Taliban, it demanded the release of 30 Taliban supporters in exchange for the three civilian workers, who were abducted near their workplaces.

Sison, British-born foreign theologian and bishop of Manila, was among the group on Oct. 28, the first abduction of foreigners in the capital since the

fall of the Taliban three years ago. Attacks of Muslims, which means Army of Muslims, and some of the men it wanted freed were in American custody but the visiting US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage on Wednesday opposed any concessions.

Washington's Afghan ally, the group's purported leader, said the attacks had started before the hostages could be freed before the Islamic feast of Eid al-Fitr, which began Saturday and which marks the end of Ramadan.

"The negotiations from the Afghan government contacted us on Friday and we discussed the whole situation," Hughes told the Associated Press in a telephone call from an unconfirmed location. "We were hopeful that the issue would be resolved before Eid,

but remarks by Richard Armitage caused some delay," he said. "We may take a final decision about

short time today."

Afghan and UN officials have declined to comment on any con-

cessions involving either a prisoner swap or a ransom, even though the militants had claimed a deal was done.

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Teves: Solons bowed to lobby on 'sin' taxes

By Carlos Padua

WHEREIN is no lobby funds flowed into the House of Representatives, did lawmakers succumb to the pressure of industry players to lower down the bill increasing taxes for cigarettes and alcohol products?

The senior vice chair of the House says said income continues thought to be a common-sense idea now in a better environment than it by the office of Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr.

"While Filipinos are asked to sacrifice on the increases of fuel and other prime commodities, forcing the BSA (Internal Revenue Service) to LGUs (local government units) and bringing requests for salary increases, they cannot understand why the government should (sic) the players of its products in allowing them to negotiate on reduced tax rates when places the government is a dual-vigilance state," Rep. Rodolfo Teves (Sulu-Negros Oriental) said in his letter dated Oct. 30.

Teves was the same congressman who speculated on Thursday that Solon's (Teves) may have generated the legislature will be the passage of House Bill No. 3174.

Consolidating among criticism from his colleagues, Teves, the oldest member of the House, attacked his statements last Friday.

In his letter to the House, Teves took pains in explaining his "intervention" about HB 3174 which seeks to impose a 20 percent tax increase on cigarettes and alcohol products, and their present adjustments annually for the next two years.

The original Department of Finance proposal involved a 50 percent increase, indication of more in inflation in subsequent years, and a reduction of benefits.

Teves explained that while he is inclined to 20 percent, as provided by HB 3174, "the revenue will only be P2.514 billion," while it would be P2.514 billion, "the proposed revenue will be P11.46 billion, yielding a difference of P8.946 billion."

His letter was dated Oct. 30, or two days after the House passed HB 3174.

4 more graft raps filed against Kokoy

THE OMBUDSMAN has filed four more cases of graft against Benjamin "Kokoy" Romualdez, the brother-in-law of the late opposition President Marcos, for failure to file his statements of assets and liabilities (SAL) as a public official.

Romualdez, who was formerly governor of Leyte province and ambassador to the United States, was charged on Friday before the Manila Regional Trial Court with four counts of violation of the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act for allegedly not filing his SAL from 1987 to 1995.

During those years, Romualdez was a technical assistant at the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Romualdez earlier last week was ordered arrested by the Sandiganbayan and graft cases another set of charges also involving failure to file his SAL covering the years 1987 to 1995, when he served as governor and ambassador.

The court also issued a hold-departure order against Romualdez and recommended bail of P15,000 for each of the four charges.

All the cases were part of the 24 graft cases against Romualdez that were dismissed on a technicality by the Sandiganbayan in 2000 and which government prosecutors revived last April.

The anti-graft cases followed the same case on April 14, 2003, filing, saying the Presidential Commission on Good Government, the agency tasked with recovering the ill-gotten wealth of Marcos and his associates, had no authority to file graft charges against Romualdez.

But the Sandiganbayan said the ruling was without prejudice to the filing of the cases after a new preliminary investigation by the Ombudsman's office. — **Reynold S. Quinsion** and **Armando R. Nolasco**

Dream coverage was also his last

By [Name] and [Name]
 In Manila, the news of the assassination of Benigno Aquino III and his wife Corason Aquino was met with a sense of disbelief. The news that the former president and his wife had been killed was a shock to the nation.



A PHOTO of Benigno Aquino III and Corason Aquino taken during their last public appearance in Manila.

covering the festival, which marks the end of the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan.

Suspect's profile

Rep. Gen. Antonio Dela Cruz, commander of the 1st Infantry Division in Manila, is the profile of the suspect in the assassination of Benigno Aquino III. He is a former member of the military and has been involved in various military operations. He is currently serving as a member of the House of Representatives.

discretion project on transparency, accountability and governance in the business industry.

Scary on corruption

The National Union of Journalists of the Philippines, which has been a vocal critic of corruption in the government, has expressed its concern over the assassination of Benigno Aquino III. It has called for a thorough investigation into the case and for the prosecution of those responsible.

ports were members of the Aquino family, including Benigno Aquino III and Corason Aquino.

Threat

The NUPP noted that just the day before Benigno Aquino III was killed, he had received a threat from a group of people. The threat was to kill him if he did not stop his work on transparency and accountability. The NUPP has expressed its concern over the threat and has called for the protection of Benigno Aquino III.



EXPLANATION after watching the live coverage of the assassination of Benigno Aquino III and Corason Aquino.

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Benigno Aquino III and Corason Aquino, former President and First Lady of the Philippines.

GMA: Tax take up 13%

In a shift in Manila, Philippines, the President said his collection of taxes would be a success for the government. He noted that the tax take up for the first quarter of 2004 was 13%.

Thanks to Senate, House

Although the measure still has to be approved by the House of Representatives, the President has already expressed his gratitude to the Senate and the House for their support.

The President said that the success of the tax collection was due to the support of the Senate and the House. He noted that the tax take up for the first quarter of 2004 was 13%.

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RP to host Int'l Year of Rice festival

THE INTERSECTION
All Year of Rice (AYR)
Forum and Summit
will be held at the
Philippines on Nov.
27-29 and will bring
together leaders in the
market's research and
respected experts to
discuss the latest im-
portant aspects of the
culture, trade, de-
velopment and pro-
spects.

The IFB coordinated capital markets activities launched by the United Nations last January to promote a wider understanding of the role that race plays in a country's health, economic stability and environmental future.

The UN's version of the UN General Assembly declared 2004 the International Year of Rice. The Philippines led 40 other UN members in sponsoring the action.

The Department of Agriculture gave the Philippine Social and Welfare Extension Foundation the job of organizing the TFR teams and education. The FBIS team is "New in LUP, New in the community,"

Honorary speakers will include Dr. Yuan Long Ping, the father of hybrid rice; Dr. He Chongqing, minister of the State Science and Technology Commission; and Dr. Li Changping, minister of the State Education Commission.

For the Asia and the Pacific, Food and Agriculture Organization, Maldives National University, Maldives Group, Dr. Floriano Bernardi, Institute of Florida University and Administrative Services, Inc. of the National Road Authority.

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Examination Date : 30 January 2005 (Sunday, Morning)

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Deadline for Submission of Applications with complete requirements including payment: 15 December 2016

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Our Comments/Questions sent by e-mail will not be accepted. There will be no extensions of the deadline.

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See CTS/ACW Periodic See: 1993 Series of 2004

Successful US debut for Bobby Pacquiao

By **Samuel L. Luperón**
Cebu City

PHILADELPHIA—Super flyweight jockey Bobby Pacquiao made a successful debut in his professional boxing career, easily knocking out the 11-year-old American challenger in the first round of the 10-round bout at the PBA Arena in Philadelphia.

Pacquiao won on all three judges' scorecards, according to trainer John Serrano, who said the victory was a "very easy" win for the 22-year-old Filipino.

The win over the American, who was the 11th-ranked prospect in the world, was a "very easy" win for the 22-year-old Filipino. Pacquiao, who has been training in the United States since he was 15, was "very easy" on the American.

Pacquiao, who has been training in the United States since he was 15, was "very easy" on the American.



DANIELAUG Top favorite

PHOTO BY [illegible]

JVC Open badminton quarterfinals today

ACTON—The JVC Open badminton tournament, which begins today with the opening of the quarterfinals, will conclude with the final match of the tournament at the JVC Arena in Acton, Mass., on Nov. 14.

The tournament, which is the 11th annual event, will feature a total of 128 players from 15 different countries.

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The tournament, which is the 11th annual event, will feature a total of 128 players from 15 different countries.

men, posing their greatest threat to the JVC Open.

UP Eilat, founded by one of the country's top athletes, has been a major force in the development of badminton in the country.

The seven-day event, which will conclude on Nov. 14, will feature a total of 128 players from 15 different countries.

Cycling Search Invitational Criterium race next week

CYCLING—The Search Invitational Criterium race, presented by Fagor, will be held on Nov. 21 in Manila with the country's premier riders and their teams competing in the event.

The event, set up to provide the country's premier riders with a chance to compete in a criterium race, will be held on Nov. 21 in Manila with the country's premier riders and their teams competing in the event.

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The WORLD

Editor: Lawrence B. Gotsis

Palestinians face post-Arafat uncertainty after chaotic burial

RAMATLEVI, West Bank—The Palestinian people were facing life post-Arafat on Saturday, the day after burying the only leader that most of them had ever known in chaotic and emotional scenes here.



FILETOWNSMEN carry the coffin of Arafat to the West Bank City of Ramatlevi Nov. 12. Arafat was buried on Friday in chaotic scenes of grief and gunfire at the compound where he spent his final years, following the Israeli army and gunshots to end his dream of a Palestinian state.

Yasser Arafat was laid to rest in the Ramatlevi compound, which was his central prison in his final years, amid scenes of grief and chaos at the West Bank headquarters Friday as thousands of Palestinians struggled to reach a last glimpse of their leader.

The body of Arafat, who died at age 75, was placed in a grave topped with red from his beloved Jerusalem, a Palestinian flag, floral wreaths and the shrouded Israeli and Syrian flags, which the Israeli army took away.

Thousands of Palestinians camped around the dig site, but a helicopter that brought the body to Ramatlevi from Gaza, where a much more formal night ceremony was attended by dozens of foreign dignitaries.

Overwhelmed Palestinian security forces shot into the air as the coffin was lowered into the grave, which was being sealed and for some 20 minutes.

Arafat was eventually buried in a corner of one of the compound's main buildings, where he lived in a private residence. He was buried in a private residence in Ramatlevi, an Israeli army-controlled area, including newly appointed Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) chief Mahmoud Abbas and his close aide Saif Qurei.

Arafat had always been revered as a hero in the eyes of Palestinians, which is the final, but not the last, of his life. He was not only a leader, but he was also a symbol of resistance.

The passing of the man who spearheaded the Palestinian national struggle for free statehood has been seen by many as an opportunity to review the situation.

Many observers are agreed that no one person has the authority to pick up the reins of power to complexity in Arafat, who was a great leader.

Meanwhile the outgoing chairman of the PLO, Yasser Arafat, said that he will continue to work for the peace process.

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BUSH (right), with Vice President Cheney, said he will continue to work for the peace process.

Bush says Palestinian state possible within his 2nd term

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush on Friday set a goal of creating a Palestinian state within his second term.

He said that he will continue to work for the peace process. He said that he will continue to work for the peace process.

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US forces fire mortars at Falluja rebels; revolt breaks out in Mosul

BAGHDAD, Iraq—US Marines lobbed mortar rounds at rebels in Falluja on Saturday during a five-day-old assault that has caused a "catastrophe" for civilians there and fueled a revolt in Iraq's second city of Mosul.

In less than 24 hours, tens of thousands of Iraqis fled from Falluja and Mosul, leaving behind a city of rubble and a city of fear.

There was no report of any deaths or injuries among US Marines or coalition forces. "Coalition in Falluja are successful," a US official said.

US forces in Falluja, Iraq, captured the city of Falluja on Saturday.

A five-week war of attrition began last week against the Baathist regime. The US government has not accepted the Baathist government's plan for permission to enter the city and its oil fields.

"Our destruction in Falluja, we know it fully but this is our day as a nation and a city and a people," a US official said.

The rebels were carrying heavy weapons, including tanks, and a coalition of Sunni and Shia fighters, the Islamic Consultative of the Baath Party and the Baath Party.

"We had no contact with the Baath Party," said a US official. "The rebels in charge of the assault said Baath, adding that the Baath Party was not a threat to the Baath Party."

"We will try to talk to them, but there is no chance of success," said a US official. "We will try to talk to them, but there is no chance of success."

The Baath Party is a political party in Iraq. It has been banned since 2003. The Baath Party is a political party in Iraq. It has been banned since 2003.

Rebels take over
Iraqi national guards based near the Syrian border were ordered to move to the northern city of Mosul where some guards have taken over the city and police stations there.

The government said the city's police chief was killed and the city's police chief was killed. The government said the city's police chief was killed and the city's police chief was killed.

The US military denied an earlier report that the city's 3 million residents had been killed. The US military denied an earlier report that the city's 3 million residents had been killed.

The United States said the Baath Party's leader, Saddam Hussein, was killed. The United States said the Baath Party's leader, Saddam Hussein, was killed.

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HUGE lamps enliven Plaza Divisoria in Cagayan de Oro City.

GRACE CASTALJALAN

Controversy in Nite Café

By Grace Castaljalalan
Cagayan de Oro City

EVERY Friday and Saturday as soon as the sun sets, historic Plaza Divisoria in the heart of Cagayan de Oro City is transformed into a different world.

Barbecue stalls serve grilled meat and seafood, as locals and visitors out for entertainment indulge themselves in a seemingly uninterrupted supply of beer and liquor. Music played by live bands or disc jockeys blasts from loudspeakers.

Welcome to the Nite Café.

The city government patterned the new image of Plaza Divisoria—home to a statue of hero Andres Bonifacio and the remains of Filipino guerrillas who fought Japanese forces during World War II—after the street cafés of Europe to enliven the area.

From being an experimental project, the Nite Café has been "institutionalized" by city officials who cite the residents' warm reception.

Change of image

But critics say the area has become tacky, rather than cultured and urbane, because of unregulated activities. They charge that the Nite Café has drastically changed the image of Plaza Divisoria from being a center of military and intellectual discussion to a cheap place where prostitution thrives.

Opposition has also been bolstered by the fact that the site is near the Catholic-owned Xavier University and the Philippine Independent Church.

While the Nite Café, which started last year, brought back the vibrance of Plaza Divisoria, critics say it has also become the haven

of young people going astray. Because of its perceived bad effects on the youth, Xavier officials want the city project abolished. They argue that there is no legal basis for its existence.

However, Mayor Vicente Ezurano sees no reason to abolish the Nite Café.

"It is one good thing that the Kagayanons have and why should that be stopped, many have benefited from it," Ezurano told a local television station. He said the Nite Café had helped spur some form of economic activity in the city.

According to the critics, the Nite Café violates the city's 1994 Codified Ordinance, which prohibits the maintenance of establishments that sell intoxicating beverages within 200 meters of schools, public places and other learning institutions.

Xavier officials point out that minors are not allowed to drink or buy liquor.

Dr. Imelda Pagtuhan-an, a sociologist and chair of Xavier's College of Arts and Sciences, said the university was not against development or the Nite Café itself. What they were opposing, she



HOMELESS people sleep in front of a government-owned bank beside Plaza Divisoria. The scene was uncommon 10 years ago.

GRACE CASTALJALAN

asked, was the supposed deterioration of values of the locals.

"Where can you find a Nite Café without coffee being served? We have to look for col-

fee shops in the periphery instead," Pagtuhan-an said.

Her from contributing to the development of the city, the Nite Café has become a "pariah" area where intellectual discussions never take place, Pagtuhan-an said.

"The university is a formative [sic] of the young. Inside the school, the students are being taught moral values and a few steps outside the school's premises, a different perception is formed that whatever is happening at the Nite Café is good since the city government allows it," she said.

"They are putting temptations right [under our] noses, not only the Nite Café but also the bars and stores nearby which do not strictly prohibit the selling of liquor to minors."

Prostitution front

Carina Sajonia, an area coordinator of Talibata Inc., a nongovernment organization working among prostituted women, confirmed that the Nite Café has indeed become "a front [for] prostitution."

"Even some of our organized prostituted women and also those working in pubs go there to find customers during the wee hours of the morning," Sajonia said.

Vice Mayor Michelle Tagarda-Spiers admitted that some things need to be corrected, but added that these did not justify abolishing the Nite Café.

Moving the Nite Café toward the amphitheater area would be one option, while strictly enforcing the ban on selling liquor to minors would be another, she said.



SMART and dry good vendors hoping to make out a living compete with outdoor cafés at Plaza Divisoria.

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Graft blamed for reforestation failure

MANILA, Nov. 10 (PNA)—Some government officials who continued with logging companies and illegal practices have hurt the program of reforestation projects of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Environment Secretary Michael Delesal said.

Delesal, during the National Conference on Integrating Forest Governance with Local Government leaders held here, said the government's reforestation program has only achieved a 20-percent success rate in the past years. He also

blamed forest government policies and the public's lack of knowledge on the economic benefits of protecting the environment for the low success rate.

Delesal, however, said the DENR has identified several solutions to ensure the protection and preservation of the environment.

"Regular monitoring of our forests and community participation are crucial. There should be alliance-based approach for in-

vest-orientation," Delesal said. He urged forest government officials to take the initiative and leadership in forest protection.

"The DENR should not just choose to work on afforestation with illegal logging companies. We should consider forest management. The department's developed functions must be market-oriented and it should consider an agreement with local government units," he said.

The DENR, through its Forest Foundation, and the country's tropical rainforests are among the richest in the world in biodiversity. However, he said, 30 rate of deforestation is one of the highest in the world.

Delesal stressed that the country's rich biodiversity has been threatened during the conference was attended by DENR officials, local government officials, and DENR officials.

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Cavite gov says party shift not poll-related

MANILA, Nov. 10 (PNA)—Environment Secretary Michael Delesal said the party shift of the Liberal Party in preparation for the upcoming elections with Governor Neri Cojuangco Jr. is not related to the gubernatorial race in 2007.

"The election in all three years from now is decided by the voters. It is not the party that decides the election," he said.

Delesal, however, said the party shift is not related to the gubernatorial race in 2007.

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Groups oppose proposed coal power plant

By **Manila Bureau**

MANILA, Nov. 10 (PNA)—Environmental groups have in several cities against coal-fired power plants and nuclear plants to put up in the northern Luzon.

The Manila-based Environmental Movement (MEM) and the People's Movement for the Protection of the Environment (PMPE) said the proposed coal-fired plant in Cagayan, north Luzon, will cause serious damage to the northern Luzon.

"We know that all coal plants, without exception, emit and discharge pollutants, especially enough to seriously affect the health of surrounding communities and the well-being of the environment," said PMPE secretary general Ms. Cecilia Lopez.

Group vice Mayor Neri Cojuangco said the DENR and the National Grid Corp. submitted a letter of intent (LOI) to the municipal government last last month on their plan to put up a 1,000-megawatt coal-fired plant in a 10-hectare area in Baguio City, a coastal city in northern Luzon.

The proposed 1,000-megawatt plant is among the largest coal-fired power plants in the world. It would bring additional power to Baguio City. Cojuangco said he has no objection to the LOI because he wanted to ensure people live.

Church worker slain in Albay

MANILA, Nov. 10 (PNA)—A church worker in Marikina City, Marikina, Albay was shot dead last night by two men in a car.

The victim, Joel Sison, 40, married and resident of the place, suffered gunshot wounds in the head and body.

According to a police report made by the victim's wife, Sison, he was outside his house at around 10 p.m. when he heard a shot.

Sison, who was a member and lay preacher of the Saint Joseph's Church in Marikina, was shot dead by two men in a car.

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2 public works execs suspended

MANILA, Nov. 10 (PNA)—Environment Secretary Michael Delesal said the suspension of two public works officials in Marikina City is not related to the gubernatorial race in 2007.

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Garcia to be an 'example?' You bet, says GMA

Even if the President visits the book-burner in Garcia, new members of the Office of the Ombudsman admit that it would be hard to pin him for plunder.

Wanted: whistle-blowers

Speaking on conditions of anonymity, the two sources said the Ombudsman badly needed someone—consultants, suppliers, or any of Garcia's staff—to testify that he had accepted money from those who had begged military contracts.

"If there is a need for whistle-blowers, it is now," said a source. "There is no no-no around the acquisition of wealth. All we know is that he took it."

The source said that under Republic Act No. 7448 (for the Anti-Grafting and Frustrating the Crime of Plunder), it was important to get investigations to establish how government officials had accumulated wealth since last position.

Article 14 of the law says that government investigators must "ascertain beyond reasonable doubt a pattern of events or criminal acts indicative of the overall individual character or competence."

"We must prove how he got it... how he acquired or amassed wealth by illegal or immoral use of public office," the source said.

April 2003, Valdez-Gloria, the government must prove bank records or identify the "companies" in the acquisition of wealth, the source said, adding:

"There is no smoking gun yet. We must dig deeper."

Only perjury

The other source agreed with the first, saying this was why more than a month after Garcia's completion of his term, the source, the Ombudsman had managed to get only from perjury charges and a forfeiture petition before the Sandiganbayan.

What the government has to do is establish the source of Garcia's wealth. Garcia has 150 national officers and the \$200,000 that one of them said were caught between his November 2003 term and his term, but he had to be a military commander and supplies.

Garcia had also admitted that he had lost his husband, brought some of thousands of dollars from his second



DOOR to the Sandiganbayan had to be widened to accommodate the pretty Frank of Gen. Carlos Garcia (right).

status in the past, but that they had actually declined the money.

"But according to the source, Garcia's admission could not be used as evidence against him to order the filing of charges."

"The source can testify against the husband, his children or even down to the respondent without filed cases," the source said, adding that more the source of Garcia's dollar wealth had to be established.

Won't be easy

In a source perspective, Ombudsman (former administrator) it would not be easy to pin down "strong evidence" against Garcia for the charge of plunder.

Manuel said it must be proven that Garcia acquired his assets through "undue influence, corruption, abuse or mismanagement of public funds" and by "constraining, directly or indirectly, any commission, gift, share, percentage, kickback" or other benefits in relation to a contract or project of his office.

Likewise, it must be proven that Garcia had "undue influence or official position, authority or relationship" to "acquire such benefit."

The Office of the Sandiganbayan has found that Garcia accumulated P200,000,000 in unexplained wealth from 1993 to 2003.

The general's assets include real property and cash deposits in the United States amounting to

\$2,720,430.28

Rooting out corruption

In her speech, Ms. Arroyo said Garcia's case as highlight her administration's resolve to fight graft and corruption.

She said addressing the government's job as public began with an acknowledgment that an entrenched culture of corruption was the main cause of the country's economic difficulties.

"It must take corruption wherever it may be found, be it in the military or in the government, or in the private sector. And if we go to getting away from it, we must do it," she said.

Ms. Arroyo said the Philippine

army at a grassroots, "and there is only one path to order if we are to truly take corruption seriously." She said the military, the government of new revenue and the country's out of corruption in the government."

She said the military's government position over the years and the mismanagement of public office had led the people deeply cynical.

"Because of this, we must be taking the 10-point integrity agenda I outlined in my inaugural address will be based on restoring back to our institutions of government and making real progress in the fight against corruption."

Ms. Arroyo said the fight against corruption must have the support of all leaders and sectors, including the law profession.

"This is the time for national solidarity for the honest and against corruption wherever it may be found—in the government, in the courts, even in the law and discipline where you have, right here, making progress against the lawless conduct of crime," she said.

Cutting edge

The President had Garcia being a "cutting edge" in the fight against corruption.

"I am happy to let you know that the World Bank and many others, including our business partners, are working to strengthen the investigative capability of the Ombudsman because everybody believes in transparency," she said.

She also mentioned, however, that Garcia's case was the main cause of the country's economic difficulties.

"We helped him the life of his country as private government," she said, adding that Garcia's case was the main cause of the country's economic difficulties.

Ms. Arroyo said the Philippine

Detention

complaint will have to share a uniform and suit with other detainees. And there will be no air conditioning, no soft lighting, no food.

"We can put him in an enclosure but he has to pay for it, like the others," said a source.

'Millionaire's row'

He will stay in the same building as the leaders of the other side group and alleged Indonesian terrorist leader.

Ms. Arroyo said the military will have to pay for the alleged corruption in the military during the alleged military trial.

"We will not happen because they are in different buildings," she said.

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BALINESE ROOF SHAKES

(Do you want an Asian design for your house?)

Made from natural bamboo, our Balinese Roof Shakes are designed to provide the natural beauty of the Balinese style of architecture.

Some call this design Balinese, others call it Balinese.

Multi-Line now has the Balinese Roof Shakes for your house.

It's the best way to get the Balinese look for your house.

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BAMBOO FLOORS

(The flooring for Asian Design)

How does one explain Bamboo Flooring? It's not just about price. It's not just about quality. It's not just about the product. It's about the lifestyle. It's about the lifestyle of the Asian. It's about the lifestyle of the Asian. It's about the lifestyle of the Asian.

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Sunday **BIZ**

Business Features Editor: Margie Quijano-Solis

LEGAL EAGLE SOARS
Love him or hate him

By Tina Arnes-Dumales

EMERILED E Manalita is one of the characters keeping the country's news hot.

And because of that, you will see him using his position as high boss in his home with a passion.

People love Manalita for his great knowledge of the law, for being the youngest and brightest among his family, and for being a colorful general, who was chosen every now for the postmaster under the late President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

He is a good lawyer, that got him into the law, and he is a good politician, that got him into the politics of the old Philippine Republic.

Many admire him for his position as his boss, which has earned him more than \$2 million a year, and he has been his boss for his lifetime of service.

And the 74-year-old still personally appears in court hearings, whereas other top lawyers send their employees.

Even his high-society work clients are not his clients, but a moment in his home, one-on-one.

Manalita, after all, had been able to get them out of every tight legal spot that would have other who left them with a lot of lawyer and no money.

Doing a job

But does there are those who question why Manalita allow himself with those who have been accused of committing all sorts of wealth, such as robbery and drug smuggling? Like his son, Ben Miguel E. Manalita, Jr., the late President Marcos's son, the late President Marcos's son, and the late President Marcos's son, and the late President Marcos's son.

He is the president of the Philippine Bar Association, and he is the president of the Philippine Bar Association, and he is the president of the Philippine Bar Association.

Manalita, however, says that he is just simply doing his job. He is not doing his job for the sake of his family, but for the sake of his family.

He adds that he has been married for 40 years, and he has been married for 40 years, and he has been married for 40 years, and he has been married for 40 years.

"I think the basic principle of a lawyer is that he must protect his client," he says. "I am a lawyer, and I must protect my client."

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He taught it for years at his alma mater, the University of the Philippines College of Law, where he graduated with honors in 1952.

He was also instrumental in the passage of the Corporate Governance Act, which is a landmark law in the Philippines.

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THE FORMER justice general's passion for the law has not waned, even after 30 years.

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MANALITA's son is a spokesman for his father.

Hotel is crown jewel of Queen City

By Tim Rocco-Dunbar

IF 2007 is the Queen City of the South, then one of the jewels on its crown is the Raffles Hotel-City Hotel and Casino. The eight-year-old hotel with 562 guest rooms and suites is the biggest in the country and is positioned as the premier destination for conventions and meetings outside Metro Manila.

"Raffles is a convention hotel. This is our unique selling feature. In terms of service, we are trying to be the best through our programs to protect

the best art of service. Considering the size of the hotel, that is, any given room could have up to 10,000 guests, it is really challenging," says Raffles hotel manager Patrick Singsap. The deluxe hotel in Cebu City leads its class against the best in Las Vegas to its website, function rooms, ballrooms, casino and day spa center.

For the business traveler, it has a business center with three private boardrooms for small meetings and facilities where they can conduct business away from home.

For those looking for a break, it has a Raffles Spa with 24-hour room service, massage, a fully-equipped gym and a pool.

Carpenter says the group is proud of what it has accomplished because the hotel may have high occupancy and are probably not making money.

Added from the Cebu City hotel, the other members of the group are the Westward Group (Luzon), the Westward Group (Mindanao), the Westward Group (Visayas) and the Westward Group (Cebu).

The group seems to be moving the Raffles hotel chain, with plans to venture overseas.

"We are challenged because we want to prove to the hospitality industry worldwide that we can manage things better. We are also looking for the lead in helping develop the tourism industry. We believe we can make our mark as a good business partner for the world. We must believe that we can do it," Carpenter adds.



THE CASINO is one of the hotel's main attractions.



A'NETT of the hotel's main attractions.



LA GUYON, a member of the hotel's main attractions.



THE RHYTHM CLUB hotel in Cebu City is the Westward group's flagship hotel.



THE FULLY equipped gymnasium is Raffles hotel's.

Differentiation is key in bitter herb market

By Ronald W. Dominguez

RECENT times events with them in mind people to find a market for their products in the bitter herb market. The market for such products is still emerging and very many others may be trying to catch the expected boom.

Now again we find how the market for such products is still emerging and very many others may be trying to catch the expected boom.

The bitter herb market is still emerging and very many others may be trying to catch the expected boom.

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added made these bitter herbs. These were from the Philippines and South Island Quality Corp. took advantage of the market for bitter herbs.

"I wanted to see how the market for such products is still emerging and very many others may be trying to catch the expected boom."

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try. To guard against adulteration, we have our suppliers carefully inspected to make sure that we are getting real products, not fake and not being sold."

The medicinal process continues when the raw materials are turned into capsules and tablets by a proprietary manufacturer, which then ships to a leading pharmaceutical firm.

"We do all this to show our target market that we are serious in doing business," he says.

He notes that people 25 years and older, who are very busy and take their health for granted. "These people are pre-disposed to diabetes and cardiovascular diseases since they often eat too much meat and fat and do not exercise."

While National is still building a strong market base, there is optimism for its future prospects.

The Asian pharmaceutical industry is worth \$17.5 billion, with the Philippines among the top 10 markets in the region, he says.

Callebaut salivates at China's emerging sweet tooth

SINGAPORE—Japan's Kikkawa is not the only one to see the potential in the world's emerging sweet tooth. Kikkawa's sweet tooth is not the only one to see the potential in the world's emerging sweet tooth.

"We have been at the door of China's sweet tooth for a long time. We are trying to be the best through our programs to protect

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Sunday LIFE STYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at comment@inquirer.com.phRead us your feedback!
We're the only newspaper to
offer a 24-hour e-mail hotline

TV culture for kids

"YIKES! YIKES! YIKES!"

By Constantine C. Tejares

"It takes a village to raise a child," Phil Chen wrote, the broadcast from Pinoy Nation for Children's Television (SMARTV) accurately captures the ideology for child-oriented TV shows, particularly in protecting children from the cruel, sexual and violent content prevalent in today's TV programming.

Formed in 1996 to foster greater sensitivity among the broadcasters and to promote the sense of responsible programming and viewership, SMARTV started springing on the Asian TV front in 2000. Only 31 shows were launched then, and last year 45 were created.

This year, over 120 programs were created by the networks. To manage that avalanche of content, the foundation hired a strategic partnership with the Nielsen Organization Co. (Nielsen), the second largest shipping firm in the country.

From Pinoy to GenDex this year, networks were held to strict 20 minutes of Nielsen's surveillance, ensuring the country's own home. Another of latter's main shows from the program. The watchlist was truly multicultural, only coming from all walks of life.

Age five information shows "Typical" just starting to hold for those hours at the day's dining hall. It began from a third class municipality to Nigra Occidental also with a new team. Pinoy and a young mother from Tuguegarao City are parents, businessmen, government personnel, military men, NGO representatives, teachers, workers. They are following the local TV history and increasing programs shows on how to be a parent.

Wholesome personalities

The Oct. 15-17, representative from Pinoy and broadcast media in Metro Manila were invited to observe the proceedings around the National Republic Mary Queen of Peace, as its way to build and launch their work in Manila. This was part of the first information round of the Asian TV front.

SMARTV secretary general Mag Cose (a) introduced the foundation's main office to the crowd of parents. He added they were there not to denigrate the networks and their programming but only to identify the shows that were safe for child viewing. With that, the program proceeded.

Only those 15 years old and above were allowed as parents. They were given some shows and instructed to rate their judgments on a scale of 1-10, with 7 as the passing grade.

Four screenings were held for two days of the program. Each session featured five representative episodes from English and Filipino children's shows submitted by GMA, ABS-CBN, AMN, NBN, INC, RPN, REX, Radio 27 and DZ.

Reactions to the screenings ranged from the mixed to the excited, from local audience and foreign observers.

An official feature this year was the selection of the most wholesome TV personalities. Parents were asked to write on their own shows the names of those they felt "deserve to be looked up to by children as role models of wholesome personalities."

In the unofficial count, among those deemed most family-friendly male performers, are very Gary Valenciano, John Reyes, Iga Muhlack, Vice President Rodin Castro, Mike Enriquez and Paolo Bonifacio. Among the female performers were Mel Franco, Kristin Samonte, Christine Berrido, Shaina Dizon and Wilhelmina Rodriguez. Also cited were Rowen Santiago, Anthony Pangilinan, Jeffrey Quinsac, Joni, Juan Hanes, Triggery Galia, Lea Salonga, Marlene Lora and Lory Berna.

Spicing up the audience parents were called of games from the sponsors. Pinoy Nation,



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a text away.

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The Official Sponsor of the 2004





BIR CHOW. Executive sous-chef Salvo Michelini and his assistant preparing Lounge's signature dish (far left), the Roasted Duck Breast (above).

showing, non-alcoholic beverages put their trademark twinkle on vodka-burnt whiskey as the menu, food, naturally, is as delicious as his Palm Jumeirah spread.

Setback prizes

"The biggest draw factor when it comes to the lounge have had dinner, on the menu is lighter," Ninger explains. The Roasted Duck Breast, he says, has been an instant favorite. The deliciously flavored, finished Italian Pan, says executive sous-chef Michelini, is very much a hit.

"We're, however, not there's still something about this would click. It's extremely hard to let a demand for a menu or system, then we'll do these ones."

Schneider adds they will have something "little master"—which is a good food, that is.

The new year, they say, is that lounge offers a better price point compared to a private for more than two to three.

They don't really expect Palm Jumeirah to be the only one. Lounge, Ninger says. They expect it to be the other way around. "I don't like what they get in the lounge, maybe they'll come back for lunch or dinner in Palm Jumeirah."

"Some of the phone calls I've been, also, they can't maintain the service," Ninger says. "It takes 30 minutes to get your drink when you're seated, the waiter don't get what you want, and you don't think the waiter had a service issue of the drink."

The lounge's new menu, he says, "I really hope this thing turns into something that tomorrow you will look back to and say, 'tomorrow in 2004...'"

E-mail the author at enr@enr.com or visit enr.com.



COOLAS COOL. Palm Jumeirah's new lounge.



SIGNATURE DRINKS. Chateau Martini (left) and Spiced Martini.



RED CARPET. Exclusive entrance to Lounge, with 17 tables, at the Palm Jumeirah club of the hotel.



"BOMBASTICMANIA"

'Ultimately it's the viewer's responsibility, not the network's, because you hold the remote control'



"5 and Up"

TV culture for kids

From page C2

Columbia, Inc.), Peacock, Color Pacific, Caddis, Cans, RPA, Uni-President Foods Corp. and P&G.

The joint industry and NABCTV deal gained its content with members of America's 4-4 net. The partying was led by those promotions and corporate communications head Glen Cohen (who appeared in *Willy Mays* script).

Best program for children

When the word *deduct* for a two-hour program in Little City, local journalists were allowed for a while to comment on TV culture and the state of television.

Harold and NABCTV board member and former president Stephen Rosen explained where the networks and the viewer separately stand, particularly on violent or sexual or aggressive images, language and sexual harassment (the child-like whole day).

"Violence is just a tool," said Rosen. "It all depends on how you use the instrument. It could be used to put an entire or kill... We are all the subject because we make TV the industry."

"Violence is a business," Rosen began. "It was never intended to educate. It was meant to sell a product... You are the TV man. Ultimately it's the viewer's responsibility, not the network's, because you hold the remote control. Once you have them being network owners and producers, they're also parents, who have the same concern as you have."

Harold agreed: "It's your ball game. If you continue watching them shows, they'll give you more of them because that's what you want."

Rosen explained: "It's all about the rating. Look at *Waltter*—the best program for children. But it no longer exists. Why? Because there was no sponsor, it was not taking, you were not watching it."

One joint industry and NABCTV deal was the re-anchoring of ABC-TV's "Mingus" program, the year's end of home videotex for local children's programs at the California Media Market. (One shows in the only city country, it has been transferred to a later date, so children could hardly watch it, especially in the program where people go to sleep.)

"What we're doing will not change television tomorrow," said Rosen. "We need a lot of support from sponsors, from the networks. We have to manage viewers, educate them, or rather."

The networks on their side, the networks really understand the huge percentage of the ABC-TV deal's evaluation process that puts screenings on hand were based by community organizations in various parts of the country.

Two weeks from now, the viewers will be proclaimed. They will be focused in communities celebrating the United Nations International Children's Day of Broadcasting in December.

In the media conference, Harold explained the various lines and times of viewing a TV show. "It's not about how it is from the point of view of a parent, a child psychologist from the point of view of a child psychologist, a journalist from a journalist's, a curriculum analyst from a curriculum analyst's..."

So, really it's not just TV set, folks.





CHILD'S PLAY: \$80,000 worth of toys and stuffed animals have been donated to the longest-running gift-giving program.

Now on its 10th year, 'Ma'ang Pasko sa Jollibee' is the popular food chain's way of affirming that the holidays are truly for children

Toy story, Christmas version



BIG BUZZPOUT: Jollibee's 10th year celebration has a special twist. Jollibee's 10th year celebration has a special twist. Jollibee's 10th year celebration has a special twist.

Text by Allison W. Lopez
Photos by Benigno Jimenez

CHRISTMAS shouldn't be all about gifts. But to the many kids behind its organizers all over the country, it's an occasion all it takes to make their joy during the holidays.

"There are a lot of kids in the country," says Jollibee's spokesperson, Louie Balboa. "We want to give them a chance to have a happy holiday."

Now in its 10th year, "Ma'ang Pasko sa Jollibee" is the longest-lasting gift collection project for underprivileged children.

"Originally, it was just for kids in the Philippines," says Balboa. "But it's now in other countries like the US, Canada, and the UK."

Instead of holding a big show for his birthday on Aug. 12 this year, Balboa decided to hold a party for underprivileged kids in the Philippines. "We want to give them a chance to have a happy holiday," he says. "We want to give them a chance to have a happy holiday."

to the kids.

Meanwhile, thought of helping further by proposing the project to Jollibee, which gladly accepted and carried the dream into reality. The project was aptly named after the actor with a message for kids.

Child empowerment

For Christmas and \$80,000 big smile from kids here, Jollibee continues its mission of child development and empowerment. By following up and back donations through the Ma'ang Pasko sa Jollibee project.

And in 2004, Jollibee has been named one of the most successful companies in the Philippines. "We want to give them a chance to have a happy holiday," he says. "We want to give them a chance to have a happy holiday."

"To encourage more people to take part in

JOLLIBEE good follow-

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YF's new also-board books is one of the 100 picture books sold.

"Start Your Own Business, Be an ENTREPREINOY" program, together with UP-ISSI

christmas version

Nov. 26 - Make It So You Have What It Takes to be an Entrepreneur!

Nov. 27 - Make It So You Have What It Takes to be an Entrepreneur!

Nov. 28 - Make It So You Have What It Takes to be an Entrepreneur!

Package cost of P10,000 for the complete program on P10,000 per module. (Note: New limited space available!)

Learn to do the most important business in the world and the most important business in the world. (Note: New limited space available!)

NOV 2004

WORLD TRADE CENTER

GMA **ABS** **POST** **TRIP**

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD By Frank R. Longo

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LOCAL Willamette University's Christmas tree lighting ceremony was held on Nov. 14. The tree is one of the largest in the state.

Toy story, Christmas version

It's no surprise that the holiday season is a time for giving. But what if you could give your child a gift that would last a lifetime? The answer is yes, and it's called the Christmas version of the Toy Story franchise. The franchise is a series of animated films that follow the adventures of a group of toys who come to life when their owner is around. The first film, "Toy Story," was released in 1995 and was a huge success. It was followed by "Toy Story 2" in 1999, "Toy Story 3" in 2010, and "Toy Story 4" in 2019. The franchise has also been adapted into a television series, "Toy Story Toons," and a stage musical, "Toy Story: The Musical." The franchise is a great way to introduce your child to the world of animation and to teach them about the importance of friendship and family.

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A Jollibee delivery truck is seen on a street in Manila. The truck is one of the many delivery trucks that Jollibee uses to deliver its food to customers.

Nation marks week of gifted, talented

The Philippines marks the National Week of the Gifted and Talented (NWTGT) from Nov. 22-27.

Gifted children have the potential to become great things. Many gifted children of all ages are talented, creative, and have a strong sense of curiosity and a desire to learn.

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*New program benefits
expand the same way marriage
is taxed (placed in the family)

SANPA Clubs and papers from all high are coming to town in these highlight Christmas dinner